

# Waterbury Evening Democrat.

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## THE IDAHO SINKS.

### WRECK ON LAKE ERIE COSTS NINETEEN LIVES.

Two Men Cling For Hours to a Spar—When Saved They Were So Cold and Benumbed That They Had to Be Pulled By Force From Their Perilous Position.

BUFFALO, Nov. 8.—In one of the worst storms on Lake Erie the steamer Idaho of the Western Transit line foundered in eight fathoms of water off Long point, a very dangerous promontory about 65 miles west of here. Of the crew but two were saved. These clung to a spar for eight hours, when they were discovered by the lookout on the Mariposa of the Minnesota line. The captain of the Idaho was among those lost.

The names of the drowned men are: Alexander Gillies, captain, Buffalo; William Clancy, chief engineer, Buffalo; John D. Taylor, steward, Buffalo; Nelson Skinner, first assistant engineer; Louis Gilmore, watchman; Richard McLean, wheelman; Robert Williams, wheelman; A. J. Richard, lookout; Henry Thomson, lookout; Conrad Blum, fireman; William Gregory, fireman; John Healy, assistant steward; Frederick Moffat, officer; Edward Smith, deckhand; Rochester; M. Bely, deckhand. The names of three of the men drowned are unknown to the steamship company. One was a fireman, another a deckhand and the third a porter.

The names of the two men saved are: Louis La Force, Jr., second mate, and William Gill, a deckhand, living at 137 Kent street, Rochester.

It is not known at the office of the Western Transit company where the greater portion of the dead men hailed from. The Idaho went out of commission three or four days ago, but this summer she was thoroughly overhauled. After her overhauling she was placed at the disposal of the Naval Veterans' association and by that organization used as the flagship during the G. A. R. encampment in August.

At the close of the encampment she went into commission again as a freighter.

The captain of the ill fated steamer, Alexander Gillies, was one of the most widely known of the lake seamen. He was 41 years old and knew the lake waters like a book. His brother, Donald Gillies, is captain of the steamer Mariposa.

When the big steel steamer Mariposa arrived in port with the news of the disaster to the Idaho, and having on board the two surviving members of the crew, Captain Root of the Mariposa had this to say regarding the storm on the lake and the rescue of the two men:

"I was on deck when my first mate, Myron Chamberlain, came to see me and told me that he had sighted a spar off to the north by and by, and that there were a couple of men clinging to it. He pointed it out to me, and when I got the glasses on it I could distinguish the men plainly. We were running under a good head of steam at the time, and I put on more and headed for the spar.

"When I got near, I was puzzled how to help the men off, for I could not lower a boat in such a storm. Finally I circled about the spar until I ran alongside, and my men picked the poor fellows off. They had to drag them away from the spar by force. The men had been there so long that their arms had become almost dead and were twisted about the mast and almost frozen fast to it. When we got them on board, we put them in bunks and gave them some warm food and soup and had them feeling pretty good physically when we reached harbor.

William Gill, the rescued deckhand, a swarthy, well built man, 23 years old, has sailed the lakes since he was a youth. He is more intelligent than the average seafaring man and his story of the disaster is a thrilling one.

"We left here, bound for Chicago with a cargo of general merchandise," said he. "Everything seemed all right until we got outside the breakwater, and then we were struck by the worst storm that I ever saw. When the first big breaker struck us we were tossed up in the air, like a top, and a second later a big roller came over the port bow and rolled down amidships a foot deep. The wind shrieked and howled, but we did not pay much attention to the storm. We were running, high water gained on us, and the water came over the tops of the breakers like a wall, and we could weather it, and he kept on his course.

"As we headed up the lake, dead against the gale, it appeared to be getting worse every minute. The waves were running high and the water was up to the tops of the breakers like a wall, and we could weather it, and he kept on his course.

"When it was found that the power was gone and that she could not be moved, we knew we could not live in the trough of that fearful sea, and the only hope left us was to run out to the anchor and bring her head up to the surface and let her ride out the gale.

"Every seaman realized the danger of attempting to do that in the face of a hurricane, and when Captain Gillies decided to do it, he ordered the lashings of the boats cut and told the men they were forced to take one last chance for their lives.

"At the word the anchor dropped from the bow, and the chain began to pay out, but the sea was too heavy, and instead of the anchor catching with a firm grip and bringing the ship's head up to the surface, it went too slow, and she simply tumbled into the trough of the seas, which broke over her in torrents.

"In an instant she was as helpless as a log, and she was tossed here and there and taking every wave aboard.

"The port to starboard the great mountain of foam and water poured, rolling into the hold and adding to the quantity already weighing her down. The load was too much, and after a moment, when we all felt that we were lost, the ship keeled over to starboard and went stern first.

"What became of my mate I don't know. I remember that the boats had been loosened and that some of the men were ready to take to them if the vessel went under, but no boat could have lived for a minute in that terrible sea, and if any of them did get in the boats it was simply to be swamped as soon as the first wave struck them.

"Maybe they didn't leave the ship at all. I was near the spar, and when the stern of the vessel began to go under, I went for the rigging and went up as fast as I could. Another man went with me, the second mate, and I think the Lord that he was with me, or I would have gone mad during all the long hours that I was up there hanging on and trying to keep off the frightful cold that was slowly killing us both.

"There was a rolling to and fro as the vessel struck the bottom and slowly righted to an even keel, and then a second later she rolled over to one side. I thought she was going all the way over, but she did not. She settled on bottom, and, though the waves rolled her from port to starboard, the spar remained out of the water, with my mate and myself clinging to it.

"All this time the hail and sleet were coming down in a cutting sheet, and we were covered with ice in a few minutes, for though the top of the spar on which we were hanging was 25 feet above the water the big waves struck us and broke over us, and the hail cut us like shot.

"After our hour we waited there, and then we saw a man with a flag. For a long time we didn't know whether she would sight us, and we watched her from the time she was a little smoky haze up the lake until we could see that she was a big vessel.

"When she finally sighted us and we saw her head up, I tried to tell my mate, but I couldn't, and he looked at me with a happy look in his face. It was a terrible time to us before she came up to us, and then I knew we were not safe yet, for the sea was running high and the big steel boat was rolling like a cork in the water. We were up to the air until we could see her white bottom under her water line. We knew at once that her captain would not attempt to lower a boat, for it would have been chewed up by the waves. The Mariposa got within a cable length of us, and a strong voice yelled to us to hang on.

"Don't give up," he yelled. "We'll get you off soon."

"Then the boat circled around us, coming as near as she could, but when she was within a few rods a big roller swept her far out, and she went off to starboard, rolling heavily when she got in the trough of the sea. Then she came back again, and again she missed us, and we couldn't take a line had one been thrown to us. Again she went around, and we watched her and watched the men on her rail waiting to give us a lift when they could. On the third trip around she ran right alongside our spar, and as she went past a dozen men reached for us. I don't know who got me, but Mr. Smith, the engineer, got hold of me, and he dragged me from the spar and over the rail to the Mariposa. An instant later we had passed the little stick on which I and the mate had been hanging for almost a day, although it seemed a week."

The fireman identified. ROCHSTER, Nov. 8.—The unknown fireman at Mariposa, who saved the Idaho was named Richards. He lived at Ogdensburg and was the son of Captain Richards of the tug Thomas Wilson, which plies on Lake Ontario.

Back From Alaska. SEATTLE, Wash., Nov. 8.—The schooner M. M. Morrill has arrived from Cooks inlet with nine passengers and \$20,000 in gold. Half of this amount is the property of the United States Mercantile company. The other half is distributed between A. White and L. H. Oregon, who have claims on California creek, a tributary of Twenty Mile creek.

Two Burned to Death. HALIFAX, Nov. 8.—The residence of George Tullock, about three miles from Mariposa, was burned to the ground. Miss Mary Walker, sister of the Tullocks, and a 4-year-old child of the Tullocks, who were sleeping together, were burned to death.

Production of Sugar from Beets. WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Consul Bartlett at Malaga reports to the state department estimates of the amount of sugar produced in Europe from beets for the year 1897-98 at 4,500,000 tons, against 4,915,749 tons for the previous year.

Will Be Tried in Virginia. NORFOLK, Nov. 8.—The prisoners from the bark Olive Pecker have been transferred from the United States ship Lancaster at Fort Monroe to the Norfolk city jail. No one is allowed to see them. They will be tried here.

## MONETARY MATTERS.

### JOHN C. BULLITT SENDS AN OPINION ON THE MATTER.

Favors But One Kind of Currency—National Bank Notes, He Says, to Be Redeemable in Gold; Also No Note Should Be Issued For Less Than \$5.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—The monetary commission is receiving in answer to its invitation many interesting propositions for reform of the banking and currency systems of the country, and among these is one from John C. Bullitt, which, coming highly indorsed as it does by financial authorities, has attracted great attention and study.

Mr. Bullitt and his associates every branch of the problem before the commission, and its provisions in part are as follows: That all of the outstanding currency obligations, amounting to about \$800,000,000, shall be taken up and canceled, and new currency issued according to business exigencies (under the direct control of a currency board composed of the president, secretary of the treasury and comptroller of the currency) by 3 per cent bonds. There is to be but one kind of currency—namely, national bank notes redeemable in gold at the bank of issue and a selected bank of reserve, and these notes are to be issued gradually to replace obligations as the latter are retired.

These notes are to be secured by a deposit of 15 per cent of gold in the bank vaults and by a first lien upon all of the bank's assets, as well as by a special provision giving the government the right to assess all national banks when needed to make good notes of a depreciated bank, the notes of which would then be redeemed by the government. A tax is to be laid upon the banks to cover the expenses of the currency board and the balance held to secure redemption of notes in gold, but if this exceeds \$10,000,000 the surplus may be covered into the treasury to be put at a pressure upon the banks to take up the notes when the emergency has passed.

Silver and subsidiary coins should be redeemed in gold by the United States government when demanded. These amounts to about \$300,000,000. No note should be issued for less than \$5. National banks should be constrained to exchange notes now out for new issue by surrendering notes as they receive them. Custom dues and taxes of all kinds should be paid in gold, and the third in bank notes. This is necessary to supply the government with the gold required by it to pay interest upon its bonds, redeem silver and for other purposes.

The system of clearing house certificates adopted by the banks in the large cities in times of panic should be legalized. They have proved to be most salutary, and there can be no better evidence of the need of such a system than the fact that it has been established by voluntary consent in times of panic.

John C. Bullitt is a leading lawyer of Philadelphia. He is a Democrat and the author of the bill in the Pennsylvania legislature which gave Philadelphia its present charter. He is of the National Union bank of New York, formerly director of the United States mint, has also presented a paper to the commission addressed not so much to the merits of any particular form of banking system as needed reforms of the present currency law.

He favors branch banks, but doubts the present advisability of making the banks' assets the sole basis of issue, although that would be the true logical method. Nor does he believe it necessary to redeem all of the currency in paper in gold, as the wants of the people are fully adequate to keeping in active circulation the \$480,000,000 of this money now afloat, as evidenced by the successful practice of France. In the west, south and middle sections of the country, where gold is not called for on export account, this form of money suffices for all business needs, and practically there is no difficulty in securing its redemption in gold when wanted through deposits in bank.

Moreover, the redemption by the government of silver would require the locking up of a large gold reserve in the treasury and restrict the circulation. Mr. Leech favors the repeal of the act of May 31, 1878, requiring the reissue of United States notes coming into the treasury and would leave it optional with the treasury to reissue these notes only in case of need. This alone would insure the stability of the gold standard. He regards as prospective and not as imminent danger from the maintenance of the present legal paper money circulation and believes that it can be gradually retired by the coining of silver bullion both into dollars and subsidiary coins.

Plymouth's Celebration. BROOKLYN, Nov. 8.—The semicentennial anniversary of Plymouth church was celebrated yesterday. The memorial sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Berry of London, who spoke of the effects in Great Britain of the preaching and teaching of Henry Ward Beecher.

Successful by a Wife. BOSTON, Nov. 8.—Mrs. Johanna Joyce, 45 years old, was suffocated in her bed by reason of a fire which broke out in her lodging house on Hanover street. Her husband, Patrick Joyce, was locked up pending an examination.

## VERY QUICK JUSTICE.

### Murderer Sentenced to Death by Hanging at Express Rate.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Nov. 8.—The legal trial and sentencing of John Morgan, of Jackson County, will go down in the records of West Virginia as a sample of justice as swift almost as lynching. Morgan brutally murdered three members of the Green family early on Wednesday morning, and was sentenced on Saturday to be hanged, having been duly indicted on Thursday and tried with all formality on Friday.

Five jurors from the time the first evidence was taken in the case before Judge Reese Blizard the jury had returned a verdict of guilty, and it was only sixty hours after the commission of the crime until the death watch was placed over the condemned man.

A mob was formed Wednesday night to lynch Morgan. Judge Reese Blizard stayed at the jail with the Sheriff all night, three times addressing the mob and promising a speedy trial, no favors and full penalty for the accused if he found guilty. His promises satisfied the mob, and he was released, but said that he had committed the murders in self-defense.

Morgan weighs 125 pounds, is 27 years old, has large blue eyes, a hooked nose and a low forehead. He comes of a murdered by his father having been turned murdered by a brother of her victim.

HANNA WILL BE RETURNED.

There Will Be No Contests in Ohio or Maryland.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Democrats coming to Washington from Ohio and Maryland almost without exception admit that Senator Hanna will be returned and that Gorman is defeated. The talk of contests in either State is deprecated by the most conservative, and they seem inclined to accept the results of last Tuesday's verdict without question.

Democrats from the East are much encouraged by the results in New York and New Jersey, and say that the Indiana and Missouri contests will be returned in place of the Democratic Senators and Smith. Democrats hope for Congressional gains in Pennsylvania next year. They say that it is notable that for the first time in many years the Republican vote in the State is less than that of the combined opposition vote.

## CONFESSES MURDER.

Thomas Nulty Admits Killing His Three Sisters and Little Brother.

Montreal, Nov. 8.—Thomas Nulty, the eldest brother of the victims of the Rawdon murder, has been arrested on suspicion of having killed his three sisters and one brother. The confession was made Saturday at the instance of Detective McCaskill, of Montreal, who has been working on the case.

The prisoner is about 20 years of age and has been of a roving disposition. He said that he was away from home on the day of the murder and returned to the scene at midnight after it had been committed. He first denied all knowledge of the crime, but his actions aroused suspicion, and he was accordingly arrested.

Later in the afternoon Nulty confessed to murdering his three sisters and brother at Rawdon.

## Preacher Reader Expelled.

Boston, Nov. 8.—The Rev. George A. Reader, who performed the marriage ceremony which united the couple in the lion's den at the Zoo on Thursday night, has been expelled from the Boston University School of Theology because of his performance. The official report of the meeting says that the action was taken because Mr. Reader yielded to a pecuniary temptation and accepted of a salary of \$1,000 a year, an ordained elder in the Methodist Church and is in his second year at the school. He is married and lives in South Boston.

## Banker Foster Arrested.

Lubec, Me., Nov. 8.—As a result of the investigation into the closing of the Lubec Savings Bank, Micah M. Foster, treasurer of that institution, was placed under arrest Saturday charged with embezzling \$20,000 of the funds of the bank, which caused great surprise in this section of the coast, although it was known that an examination of the bank's affairs had been in progress for some time.

Mr. Foster says that he will establish his innocence when the case comes to trial.

## Lie Will Sail for Cuba To-morrow.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Gen. Lee left Washington Saturday evening for the city of New York. He will sail for Cuba to-morrow. It is expected that the Consul-General will remain at Havana for quite a period. While in Washington Gen. Lee refused absolutely to deny or affirm the reports that it is his intention to return to the United States for the purpose of entering the contest in Virginia for Senator Martin's seat in the United States Senate.

## Miner's Wife Dies of Starvation.

Shamokin, Pa., Nov. 8.—Mrs. Joseph Coshak was found dead in bed at about 10 o'clock Saturday, and the authorities have since learned that she starved to death. Her husband went to his work in the mines Saturday morning without a morsel of food, and the children found weeping over their dead mother were almost famished. Both of the parents have been sick for several months. The poor authorities will provide for the family.

## Important Iron Ore Find.

Crystal Falls, Mich., Nov. 8.—The most important iron ore discovery on the Menominee range in several years has been on the bank of the Michigan River, one mile south of the Mansfield mine. The vein is 77 feet deep and 40 feet wide. The ore assays 62 per cent in iron and 0.51 per cent in phosphate, thus putting it safely with the Bessemer limit.

## SPANISH WAR SCARE.

### NO FOUNDATION FOR FRIGHT OVER CUBAN AFFAIRS.

President McKinley Expects No Trouble with Spain, and Proposes to Give It Ample Time to Test the New Policy.

Washington, Nov. 8.—There is absolutely no foundation for this Cuban war scare. There has not been a meeting of the Cabinet for two months when the forecast, so far as foreign affairs are concerned, was so pacificatory.

"The prospect for the navy is so quiescent that the captain of our biggest ship has been ordered to Washington and is sitting upon a gun to prepare a bill for the reorganization of the personnel of the navy service. The rest of the big ships are now undergoing their winter repairs."

Secretary Long made this statement on Saturday in answer to the sensational reports which have been published during the last few days that the relations between the United States and Spain were in such condition that war was impending.

Positive information shows conclusively that President McKinley regards the Cuban situation as most pacific, nor does he expect any developments at the present time which will be a just reason for alarm. Your correspondent is able to state authoritatively that it is the firm determination of the President to give Spain a reasonable time in which to test the new policy which Gen. Blanco has been authorized to put into effect in Cuba. He has been officially informed of the intention of Spain to abandon the reconcentration policy, and he is daily expecting the announcement that Gen. Blanco has issued an order extending the zones of cultivation in Cuba.

The prospect of a more humane conduct of the war is a reason, in the opinion of the President, why this Government should so slowly further its policy in the Cuban matter. Therefore, officials say, the reports of impending trouble are false on their face. Washington and Madrid are acting in full accord, they declare, and so far as the deal with the Cuban question is concerned, there is absolutely no truth in the report that this Government has repudiated the charge of failure to comply with the neutrality laws.

Minister Woodford's representative, the reply will be made only after the matter has received the most careful consideration of the President and his advisers. What Minister Woodford has done has been to lay before the Madrid Government a statement in controversy of the allegations recently made by the Spanish Government, through Minister Dupuy de Lome, that the United States had been derelict in the matter of preventing the departure of filibustering expeditions.

The communication recites that the United States has done even more than is required by the rules of international law to prevent its territory being made the base for hostile operations against a country with which it is at peace. Not only has "due diligence" been observed, but it is pointed out that a fleet of naval vessels and revenue cutters, at considerable cost to the United States, has been stationed in Southern waters, especially to prevent the departure of filibustering expeditions, and that employees of the Treasury Department and the Department of Justice have been active in maintaining a careful watch for any violations of the neutrality laws.

## GEN. REEDER WON'T COMPROMISE.

His Trial for Alleged Defamation to Begin This Week.

Easton, Pa., Nov. 8.—The trial of Gen. Frank Reeder, Assemblyman Weiss and M. C. Luckenbach for conspiracy to defame John Wanamaker is set down for the term of court beginning to-day. Subpoenas have been served on witnesses to appear on Wednesday. The case will go to the Grand Jury unless the prosecution admits that it has no case against the accused. The defendants will press for an immediate trial, and it is expected it will be begun Wednesday afternoon or Thursday.

It was said in a dispatch from Pottsville that there was a conference there last Thursday between lawyers representing E. A. Van Valkenberg, the defendant in the bribery case in Luzerne county, and attorneys representing Senator Quay, Congressman Connel, of Scranton, and Gen. Reeder, looking to a settlement of the Van Valkenberg and the Reeder cases. So far as this relates to Gen. Reeder it is all error. He has declared that he would never settle nor compromise his case.

The Van Valkenberg case is another matter, with which Gen. Reeder is in no way associated, except that he has been summoned as a witness. He is indisposed to permit any publications that he deems to be or is willing to settle his case.

## Vermont's Smallest Baby.

Troy, N. Y., Nov. 8.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Gingsar, of Burlington, Vt., are the parents of the smallest baby in that State. The infant weighs a pound and a quarter, is ten inches long and perfectly formed. It has every indication of being healthy, and the doctor thinks it will live.

## Weyler Goes on His Way.

Havana, Nov. 8.—The steamer Montserrat, which Gen. Weyler and his staff sailed from Havana for Spain, and which was compelled to return to Gibara owing to some disarrangement of her machinery, has completed her repairs and again started on her voyage. Captain General Blanco has issued a proclamation to the troops in which he enjoins discipline and respect of private property. He says that families which do not resist the troops must be conveyed to the garrison town.

## PLAN OF CURRENCY COMMISSION.

### Rate of 2 Per Cent. on the Proposed Refunded Debt.

Washington, Nov. 8.—The Currency Commission, which has been in session here for several weeks, is ready to formulate a report. It is expected that this will be forwarded to Congress as a petition from citizens and referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

The recommendations of the commission will differ from a particulars from the plan submitted by Secretary Long at a recent Cabinet meeting. The impression is that the commission will endeavor to popularize its plan by including concessions by the national banks as a compensation to the public for the advantages which the banks would be expected to reap from the system of currency proposed.

The plan will contemplate the withdrawal from circulation of demand obligations upon the Government and the funding of obligations in gold bonds. But it will probably propose a 2-per cent. rate on the refunded debt instead of 2 1/2, as favored by Mr. Gage, thus saving a big interest charge to the Government. It will also propose to maintain the banks the obligation to maintain gold payments.

It is estimated that it costs the Government \$21,000,000 a year to maintain the parity of the currency, and it is claimed that by putting this obligation upon the banks there will be a saving of that sum to the Government.

Another proposal is being discussed, but may not be approved. It levies a tax of a fraction of 1 per cent. upon the banks as an insurance fund to guarantee deposits.

## TO OPPOSE ANNEXATION.

### Delegation of Native Hawaiians to Visit Washington.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Word has been received here that the delegation of native Hawaiians who will come here to visit Washington is made up of Prince David Kawakamaka, James K. Kaula, David Kalanikualani and J. M. Kane. The Prince will pay his own expenses, but those of the remaining delegates will be met by a subscription among the natives, the amount to be raised being \$5,000.

The delegation is to arrive at Washington about Dec. 1. Mr. Kaula will act as official chairman. He will bring with him the resolutions adopted at a mass meeting of natives, the essential being opposition to annexation. The delegation will not urge the resumption of the former Queen, or of any other representative of royalty, but will confine their efforts to having the present status of Hawaii as a republic maintained. The committee will endeavor to secure her endorsement of this plan, but failing in that, they are authorized to proceed without her cooperation for the maintenance of the present status. The delegation expects to have an early interview with President McKinley.

It is said, however, that this movement by the natives may be offset by a counter movement of native Hawaiians favorable to annexation.

## CIVIL CRISIS IN SPAIN.

### Internal Dissension and Distress All Over the Land—Revolution May Break Out.

London, Nov. 8.—A great civil crisis in Spain seems now inevitable, and the day of the revolution is not far off. Internal dissension and distress are already revolutionary in spirit, and they are likely soon to become revolutionary in action. Information to this effect comes not only from Madrid, but from a variety of public and private sources in Spain, which leave no room to doubt the grave nature of the crisis.

The Government is fully aware of the danger, but does not know the actual extent of the sedition in the army. The Carlist propaganda has been widespread for months, but it is impossible to ascertain what proportion of the officers are affected. It is feared that the arrival of Gen. Weyler will precipitate a crisis. He is not accused of Carlistism, but is known to be disaffected to the point of insubordination against the present Government.

The Cabinet is prepared to adopt the sternest measures in dealing with Gen. Weyler, in the hope that the example may crush the spirit of revolt. The fact that the Cabinet is already talking of shooting traitors, if necessary, is some indication of the serious nature of the situation.

As far as the relations with the United States are concerned, or Cuba itself, for that matter, the Spanish Government is likely to have its hands too fully occupied with domestic dangers to give much attention to the outside situation. It will be only a last desperate measure to unite the home factions against a foreign foe that trouble with the United States will be sought or thought of.

## Relief for Klondike Miners.

Washington, Nov. 8.—Secretary Alger sent the following telegram to W. S. Mason, president of the Portland (Ore.) Chamber of Commerce, in response to the Chamber's appeal for Federal aid in succoring starving miners in Alaska: "Nothing can be done by the department without Congressional authority, but I suggest that you get all particulars and the department will also get what facts it can, and you submit plan for relief. You may be sure of active co-operation as soon as Congress makes an appropriation, which, if found necessary, will be urged."

## To Take the Circus Abroad.

New York, Nov. 8.—The Atlantic transport steamship Massachusetts, which arrived on Saturday from London after an exceptionally quick passage for her of ten days four hours and fifty minutes, has been engaged for sailing this week with the army of employees of the Barnum & Bailey show and some of the animals of the menagerie. The Michigan, of the Atlantic Transport Line, which is expected here to-day, will also be used to help carry the big show across the sea.

## THE POSTOFFICE QUESTION.

### WILL THE OFFICE BE REMOVED TO CENTER STREET?

The Article in the "Democrat" Saturday Was the Cause of Considerable Discussion Saturday Night and Yesterday—The Center Street Property Owners Make a Handsome Bid For Uncle Sam's Patronage.

The article relative to the prospective removal of the postoffice, published exclusively in the "Democrat" Saturday night, has stirred up more feeling than any move that has yet been made in the city.

Nearly three years ago E. R. Lampson's block on Bank street was deserted by the postoffice department, and the office located in the new Oddfellows' building. There was a big kick made by the merchants, generally, throughout the city at the time. The government was induced to make a change, principally because of the amount of rent to be paid. Many believed at the time that it was a "pull" that removed the office, but the financial cost of it was what influenced the government more than anything else. Perhaps a similar financial scheme may be the cause of the removal of the office again.

The present office has been located in the Oddfellows building two years and six months, or a little over. An annual rental of \$1,700 a year is paid by the government. The removal of the office, realizing the fact, that the government's sanction in securing the removal of the postoffice, have made a most important point in securing the removal of the postoffice. They have offered to remove the building to contain postoffice quarters, which will be fashioned after the idea, and under the supervision of the department. These quarters they will charge the government \$1 a year rental. The removal of the \$1 is, that contracts with the government must have some amount stipulated.

That this move is a striking one, is conceded by even those closest to the office in the present location. The department has taken cognizance of the offer, and has taken it under consideration, consulted with those in the office here and with Postmaster Fitzpatrick that an inspection will be sent to Waterbury to look over the situation within a short time.

Possibly it is not generally understood that the government can break a lease in very short order. At the expiration of the present term, they can leave their present quarters at any time, and the owners of a building can not even make the slightest objection. This may not look just right in the face of it, but it is so nevertheless, that what happened in the Lampson case and what is liable to happen in the present situation, it may be however, that the owners of the Oddfellows' building will meet this piece of strategy with a cross counter which will knock out this other scheme. If it is money that influences the government, the present location may be offered rent free. The removal of the office in doing this, because what the postoffice is located, there is also the center of traffic, and consequently an abundance of business.

The merchants now located near the postoffice have wrought up over the proposed change, and they look at it from a business standpoint, you cannot blame them. Many of them are paying heavier rents than they would if the postoffice was not in their vicinity. They are justly disturbed because the removal of the office means a loss of business to them. On the other hand, the merchants who occupy Bank street, South Main street, and other streets in that vicinity, say that they had to suffer when the office was removed three years ago and that it is coming back again in their vicinity, it is only returning them what belongs to them. When the government is probably influenced by none of the merchants. If a new postoffice, located centrally can be secured rent free, it looks very much as though the government would not make a change.

A leading citizen is not a merchant, nor one of the proprietors of Center street, nor is he interested in the ownership of the Oddfellows' building, stated to a reporter of the "Democrat" this morning, the following is what he has to say:

"If the postoffice is to be changed, there are many good reasons why Center street would be the proper place. In the first place no trolley lines extend through that street and pedestrians and teams would not have to dodge cars in going to and from the depot. Secondly, it is nearer the depot and would be much more convenient for four or five minutes in the distance of the mails. Thirdly, it will be located close to the position with which it was for so many years identified. Fourthly, it will accommodate more advantageously, a greater number of merchants and business men. Finally, it will be free from any inundations and prevent mails from floating in on tidal waves. Sixthly, it will increase postal service in Waterbury."

Postmaster Fitzpatrick has entered complaints, so this citizen is informed, that no carrier is to be wanted in the local office, but the government could spare no more money in Waterbury. With the saving of \$1,700 rental a year, this sum might be turned over to better service in the city. Lastly, this citizen says: "The postoffice will go just where the government says it will, and if money is the pivot which the change swings, either the Oddfellows will have to cut off their source of revenue from the government, or it looks very much as if Center street will be graced with a government building."